GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:315
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2008
PROGRAMMES FOR PREVENTION OF MALNUTRITION
Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has worked out the modalities and intervention to reduce the present level of malnutrition among children in consultation with the Food and Nutrition Board (FNB);

(b) if so,the details thereof;

(c) whether FNB has organized various programmes in the country to prevent malnutriton;

(d) if so,the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which these programmes have been able to achieve the objectives?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a),(b),(c), (d) & (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c), (d) & (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 315 FOR 19.12.2008 BY SHRI SUGRIB SINGH REGARDING PROGRAMMES FOR PREVENTION OF MALNUTRITION

(a) & (b): Yes,Sir.The problem of malnutriton in the country among children is a maltifaceted one.The Government is committed to reduce the problem of malnutrition and is implementing a number of schemes through out the country,which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of children.The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) as a part of the Ministry is providing guidance to implement the nutrition component of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in the country.

Some of the schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development which directly or indirectly contribute to improvement in the nutritional status of children in the country are as under:-

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

(ii) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board

(iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls.

(c) & (d): The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) of the Ministry strives to improve nutritional status of the people in the country by creating nutritional awareness among them particulary on the nutritional needs of the vulnerable groups comprising of infants, young children,adolescent girls,pregnant and lactating mothers,making them aware of the consequences of various forms of malnutriton and simple ways to prevent and control various nutritional deficiencies.The Food and Nutrition Board also provides wide range of Nutrition Education & Training programmes.

Some of the important areas of FNB activities are as follows:-

i) Training in Nutrition Education for ICDS Functionaries,

ii) Nutrition Education and Training for masses,

iii) Inspection of Supplementary Nutritous Food served in the ICDS Anganwadis to the beneficiaries,

iv) Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition,

v) Providing Fruits & Vegetable Processing facilities at CFNEUs,

vi) Celebration of Nutritional Events like, World Breastfeeding Week (WBW)(1-7 August),National Nutrition Week (NNW) (1-7 Septemeber),Global Iodine Deficiencies Disorders Prevention Day(21st October),World Food Day(16th October), Children's Day

(14the November),International Women's Day (8th March) etc.

vii) Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns through exhibitions,

viii) Development, production and distribution of nutrition education/training material,

ix) Mass Media Communication of nutrition awareness through audio/visual programmes,

x) Development and Promotion of locally available Nutritious Foods,

(e): As per the Report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-II conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the year 1998-99 percentage of malnutrition was 43%, which has been reduced to 40.4%, as per NFHS-III, 2005-06 by using New WHO Child Growth Standards.